

V. 2, no. 3
Feb. 14, 1949

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

*Published by the Information Department
of THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL*

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509 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. TELEPHONE: MURRAY HILL 7-4766

VOL. II, # 3

February 14, 1949

AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY TALKS REOPENED IN LONDON. The Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies again began on Wednesday, February 9th, their efforts to draft a State Treaty for Austria. Their last unsuccessful attempt ended last May after 110 inconclusive meetings. The U.S. delegation to the London Conference is under the leadership of Samuel Reber and includes Francis T. Williamson of the State Department and Colonel Charles Hixon, Assistant Deputy to the United States High Commissioner in Austria. The British delegation is headed by James Marjoribanks from the Foreign Office and the French delegation by Plenipotentiary Berthelot. According to latest information available the Russian delegate is Mr. Zarubin, Russian Ambassador to London, with Mr. Kisselew as alternate delegate.

Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber accompanied by Karl Waldbrunner, Socialist member of Parliament, and by a small group of Austrian special advisers arrived in London on February 5th. Minister Gruber availed himself of his short stop-over in Paris on February 4th to discuss with French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman all problems connected with Franco-Austrian relations, particularly the Austrian State Treaty. At the close of the meeting, Dr. Gruber said he had had a "broad discussion" with M. Schuman and that he was encouraged by the French desire to speed completion of the Austrian Treaty.

VICE-CHANCELLOR SCHAEERF VISITS BEVIN. Austria's Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Adolf Schaerf, travelled to London at the end of January where he spent several days with British Government officials and Labor Party leaders. Dr. Schaerf who is chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party paid a long visit to Foreign Minister Bevin with whom he discussed problems connected with the Austrian Treaty. The Austrian Vice-Chancellor also saw, among others, Deputy Prime Minister Herbert Morrison, Minister of Social Welfare Griffith, Minister of State Hector MacNeil and the Labour Party's General Secretary, Morgan Philipps. These latter talks dealt partly with the Austrian Treaty and partly with internal questions of the Austrian Socialist Party. Upon his return to Vienna Dr. Schaerf declared that his talks in London were renewed evidence of the fact that Austria had many well-disposed friends in the British Government and in the Labour Party. He said he had gained the impression that the leading men of the British Labour Party were fully sympathetic toward Austria's desire for a speedy conclusion of the State Treaty and her efforts to assure the country a democratic political development.

AMBASSADOR FRANCOIS-PONCET ON THE AUSTRIAN TREATY. At a press conference he held during a recent short visit to Vienna, Ambassador Francois-Poncet declared that the Austrian Treaty represented a test case for peace. A successful conclusion of the treaty negotiations which started on February 9th would give not only Austria but the whole world reason to breathe more easily. A settlement of this problem would be an important step forward on the road to general world peace. Ambassador Francois-Poncet, who is special advisor on German problems to the French Government, further assured the correspondents that his countrymen appreciated and understood fully Austria's longing for unrestricted sovereignty that would be respected by all nations. As far as France was concerned, he continued, his Government would spare no effort to help achieve positive results in the Treaty talks. The Ambassador also affirmed that his impression of Austria was definitely a favorable one; it appeared that the country was making excellent progress in improving its economic situation and the stability of its internal policy was truly remarkable. Of the many war-damaged European cities he had seen, Vienna was by far the most advanced on the road to reconstruction.

LORD HENDERSON VISITS VIENNA. Lord William Henderson, Undersecretary of State in the British Foreign Office visited Vienna from January 31st to February 5th to hold talks with members of the Austrian Government

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as well as with the British High Commissioner for Austria, General A. Galloway. During the conversations he had with President Dr. Karl Renner, Chancellor Leopold Figl and Foreign Minister Karl Gruber, all questions regarding Austria were thoroughly aired with special emphasis on the problem of the State Treaty.

MINISTER HELMER HOPES FOR UNDERSTANDING WITH YUGOSLAVIA. Austria's Minister of Interior, Oskar Helmer, in a statement he made at the end of January on the occasion of the arrival in Vienna of the last large-scale group of Austrian prisoners of war from Yugoslavia, declared that the return of these Austrian prisoners of war had eliminated another obstacle on the road to Austro-Yugoslav understanding. Minister Helmer further expressed the hope that agreement would also be reached on the other disputed questions between Austria and Yugoslavia during the London talks on the Austrian Treaty, emphasizing however that retention of the Carinthian border would have to remain the basis for any other discussions. He voiced the hope that Yugoslav refugees in Austria would return to their homeland and that Yugoslavia would receive these unfortunate exiles who were longing to go back to their native land generously and treat them nobly. The Minister concluded his address with the fervent desire that feelings of hatred and revenge between nations would soon disappear and lead to united cooperation in the interest of peace and for the benefit of all the nations of Europe.

AUSTRIAN ENVOY TO WASHINGTON PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO MEXICAN PRESIDENT. Dr. Ludwig Kleinwaechter, Austrian Minister to the United States, has also been accredited as Minister to Mexico. He presented his credentials to President Aleman in Mexico City on January 27th.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL AWARDED HIGH FRENCH DECORATION. Dr. Fritz Meznik, the chief of the Federal Press Service, was recently decorated with the Legion of Honor by the French Envoy in Vienna, Monsieur de Monicault. Dr. Meznik was awarded this decoration for his underground activities in the ranks of the French resistance movement during the war.

ALLIED COUNCIL AND AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT AT ODDS ON LEGAL POINT. The Austrian Parliament (Nationalrat) unanimously decided not to comply with an Allied Council request that the ordinary federal law establishing an amnesty for violators of the electoral act, which had previously been approved by both Houses of Parliament, be changed to a constitutional law, and to prevail on the Allied Council to take cognizance of the law in its present form. During the debate representatives of both major parties repeatedly pointed out that the "Nationalrat" (Lower House) took the position that the Houses of Parliament and the Constitutional Court were the bodies responsible for protecting and safeguarding the Constitution. Minister of Justice Geroe, in a detailed juridical explanation, affirmed that the views of the Allied Council's Executive Committee were not pertinent in this matter. There is no doubt, he stated, that the provisions of the amnesty granted those who violated the election law do not represent a change of the law itself but rather a limited prerogative of pardon, which according to the Austrian Constitution, is granted by an ordinary federal law.

AUSTRIAN COURTS GRANTED BROADER AUTHORITY BY U.S. OCCUPATION FORCES. American Occupation Headquarters in Vienna recently announced that Decree 200 pertaining to violations of, and crimes against the security of members of the American Occupation Forces has been revised a second time to grant Austrian courts wider authority in the prosecution of such cases. A whole series of crimes and violations have been transferred to the jurisdiction of the Austrian authorities and turned over to them for prosecution. Among the cases which will henceforth be handled by Austrian courts are those dealing with the commination and bribery of members of the American armed forces, the unlawful possession of American army property, etc. American legal jurisdiction will now be limited only to cases involving American army personnel, leaving those involving Austrian nationals almost exclusively to Austrian courts.

224 HOTELS STILL REQUISITIONED BY ALLIES. The Allied occupation forces still have 224 Austrian hotels under requisition, according to an announcement by the Association of Austrian Hotelmen. The French lead the list with 142 hotels whereas the British have the fewest under re-

quisition, namely 20. In Vienna, the Americans occupy 19 hotels, the French 10, the Russians 7 and the British 5. This continued requisition of a large number of excellent hotels is hampering reconstruction of the Austrian tourist trade. Furthermore, most of the hotels requisitioned are in such run-down condition that they will require a complete renovation. But the actual costs for such new furnishings and accessories are 1200% above the amount of indemnity paid by the Allies. Likewise, the compensation paid by the occupation powers for use of these hotels is but a small fraction of their actual operating costs.

FIFTH RESTITUTION LAW BEING DISCUSSED BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE. A committee of the Austrian Parliament is now discussing the fifth restitution law. The law deals with renting and leasing rights for living quarters, business premises and certain real estate, whose exploitation by their rightful owners had been prohibited by the Nazis.

INSTIGATOR OF JULY 1934 PUTSCH EXTRADITED TO AUSTRIA. The American occupation authorities in Germany have approved the extradition of the former industrialist Dr. Rudolf Weydenhammer to the Austrian courts. The former Nazi criminal has already been delivered up to the Austrian authorities and is now in a Salzburg jail.

Weydenhammer is accused of having engineered the July 1934 Putsch, during which Chancellor Dollfuss was murdered, together with the "Gauler" Theo Habicht, and of having committed various other terrorist acts in Austria.

CHIEF OF ERP MISSION IN VIENNA REPORTS PROGRESS IN AUSTRIAN ECONOMY. The 13 percent drop between mid-December and mid-January in Austrian black market food prices, reported by the Austrian Institute of Economic Research was "incontrovertable proof of the progressive development achieved with Austrian work and American help", Mr. Clyde N. King, chief of the American ERP mission to Austria recently declared in an interview with the Vienna correspondent of the New York Times. "Now the time has come to move from planning to action", and emphasis will be placed on developing Austrian agriculture and forestry with the aim of making the country as independent as possible of agricultural imports by 1952, he added.

According to the report to which Mr. King referred, January exports from Austria were 14.5% higher than those of the previous month, thereby setting a postwar record. In the iron and steel industry the 1936 production levels were surpassed.

AUSTRIA TO SHIP GOODS TO ERP COUNTRIES. On the basis of inter-European payment and compensation balances within the ERP framework, Austria now has to grant drawing rights for deliveries to Italy, Greece and Sweden in the amount of \$3,100,000. Italy is to receive iron, steel, rolled products, timber, paper, cellulose and kaolin for a value of 2 million dollars. Sweden will get 700,000 dollars worth of rolled products, pig iron, magnesite and paper. And Greece will obtain paper, cellulose and textiles in the value of 400,000 dollars.

AUSTRIAN TEXTILE PRODUCTION SPURRED BY MARSHALL PLAN. A recent report of the Austrian Ministry of Planning states that the country's textile production at the end of 1948 had reached 72% of the 1937 production level. At the beginning of 1948, production had only reached 47% of the prewar level, and a year earlier, in 1947, the output had been a mere 26% of the 1937 production. This rapid increase during 1948 was due to the larger imports of textile raw materials which made a fuller use of Austria's textile producing capacity possible.

SATISFACTORY COAL SUPPLIES INSURED. In 1948, Austria was able to dispose of 6.5 million tons of solid fuels as compared to 4.9 million tons in 1937. The coal supply is therefore at a higher level now than it was before the war. This is partly due to an increase in hard coal imports from 2.7 million tons in 1937 and 3.9 million last year, and partly to greater production of native coke and lignite (peat coal). During 1948, Austria produced 2.8 million tons of brown coal and 900,000 tons of coke compared with a prewar production of only 440,000 tons. Thanks to these production increases, coke imports could be reduced from 550,000 to 300,000 tons. This satisfactory supply of coal made it possible to provide industry, the railroads as well as power and gas plants with sufficient fuel to meet their requirements. Today the Austrian economy consumes 1.6 million tons more coal than in 1937 because of a greater utilization of its productive capacity and a

partial increase in Austrian industrial production which, in 1948, already surpassed the production levels of the prewar period. The heavy industries (steel and iron mills, metal-processing plants, etc.) which are particularly big coal consumers have partly increased their output by more than 50% over the 1937 production.

Coal imports are largely paid by ERP funds; thus Austria was in a position to buy Polish coal with dollars. Coal imports from the Ruhr have been partly paid by Austrian electric power deliveries to Germany.

AUSTRIAN AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION. Although a number of Austrian automobile manufacturers had produced passenger cars before the war - especially such cars as the "Steyr" which was widely praised in Europe as an ideal vehicle for mountain areas - the Austrian automobile industry has concentrated its postwar efforts on the mass production of trucks, busses and tractors. The following vehicles are now being produced by these four firms:

Steyr-Daimler-Puch, Inc. - Steyr Division, Steyr (Upper Austria): 3-ton Steyr trucks, type 370 with 80 HP (European) and a 4-cylinder engine; 3-1/2 ton trucks, type 470 with 85 HP and a 4-cylinder Diesel engine; 3-1/2 ton Steyr busses with 85 HP and a special five-gear mountain Diesel engine; Steyr tractors with 80 HP and a 4-cylinder Diesel engine. The Puch Division in Graz (Styria) produces two types of motorcycles; the Puch Type 125 and the Puch Type 250.

Oesterreichische Saurerwerke, Inc. in Vienna turns out the "Saurer" type 5 G truck, 5-1/2 tons, 150 HP, 6-cylinder Diesel engine; and the "Saurer" type BT 4500 bus, 120 HP, 6-cylinder Diesel engine.

Graef & Stift, Inc. in Vienna produces the electrically powered "Graef" trolley bus with a seating capacity of 60 and the "Graef" bus, likewise seating 60, with 120 HP and driven by a Diesel engine; the latter has an attached trailer with a seating capacity of 40.

Austro-Fiat, Inc. in Vienna specializes in trucks: the A.F. type N.D. 110 five-ton truck with 110 HP and a Diesel engine; and the A.F.-Electro type M.L. 4550 five-ton electro-truck with 40 HP and an electric engine.

Part of this production is exported abroad, especially the Steyr tractors which are shipped in large numbers to Poland and the Balkan countries. Efforts are now being made at the Steyr plant to resume exports to South America.

Negotiations are now in progress between the Steyr Works and the Italian Fiat company in Turin for the mass production of a Fiat-Steyr passenger car at the Steyr plant. If these negotiations lead to an agreement, finished motor parts would be supplied from Turin and then assembled in Austria. In addition to these plans, the Steyr company is also thinking of resuming production of a passenger car of its own along the lines of the mountain type vehicle made before the war.

The Porsche Automobile Co., Inc. in Gmünd, Carinthia, has just started manufacturing a pilot series of sport cars, model 356, designed by the Austrian automotive engineer Porsche who is best known for his famous "Volkswagen". This sport model is a closed two-seater with a roomy trunk which, if need be, can also accommodate an extra passenger. It is powered by a 40 HP motor, has an unusually low center of gravity, independent four-wheel suspension and, when fully loaded, a weight of 770 kilos. The car has a top speed of 140 kilometers per hour, is extremely economical to operate and can negotiate a 30-degree slope in second gear. This car is primarily produced for export to Switzerland and other foreign countries.

PROSPECTS FOR AUSTRIA'S ALUMINUM INDUSTRY. Austria's aluminum industry comprises two plants, one at Ranshofen (Upper Austria) and the other at Lend, near Salzburg. Whereas the latter plant has its own power station and is therefore electrically self-sufficient, the former derives its electric energy from the general Austrian network, and during the winter months, when the country's power production is always sharply curtailed because of the water shortage, it is necessary to discontinue the plant's operation inasmuch as the especially large amounts of current required for the production of aluminum are not available. The Ranshofen Works are considered the most modern in Europe and are also one of the Continent's largest. But its full year-round productive capacity will only be fully utilized in about three years, after Austria's electric energy production will have been further increased. In the meantime, the plant is continuing to expand; partly with the help of credits from the Export-Import Bank, and partly with Marshall Plan means. In 1948 (from March to September), Ranshofen produced 10,000 tons of aluminum and the Lend plant some 3300 tons. It is hoped that in 1949 production will be stepped up to a total of 20,000

tons, a major portion of which will be exported to Western Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland within the framework of trade treaty commitments to those countries. This quantity will also be sufficient to meet Austria's domestic aluminum requirements, even though part of the production must be delivered to France in payment for the raw materials furnished to the industry.

INCREASE IN PAPER INDUSTRY PRODUCTION. In 1948, Austrian paper mills produced 450,500 tons of paper, thereby almost doubling the output of the previous year (250,453 tons). Before the war (in 1937) the yearly rate of production was 565,000 tons and it is expected that this figure will again be reached during the current year, providing the supply of coal continues to be satisfactory. Austrian paper exports during 1948 increased by about 120% over the previous year with a total of 113,000 tons as compared to 51,000 tons in 1947 and 336,000 tons in 1937. These exports went to a large number of European countries, particularly Italy and Switzerland.

AUSTRO-CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE. According to the official Czechoslovak statistics on that country's foreign trade in 1948, Czechoslovakia exported to Austria goods valued at 1539 million Czech crowns and received from Austria goods amounting to 898 million crowns. The 1947 figures show that Czech exports to Austria had amounted to 1008 million crowns and her imports from the latter country to 508 million crowns.

AUSTRIAN AGRICULTURE IN 1948. Austrian agricultural production in 1948 showed a marked increase over the results achieved in 1947 even though its development has not yet reached the prewar (1937) level. 1,106,523 acres were planted with bread cereals (966,592 in 1947) with an output of 558,246 tons of cereals (391,360 in 1947) or a yield of 1.25 tons per hectare (2.47 acres) (0.96 tons per hectare in 1947). By increasing the yield of the soil, it is hoped that cereal production will be increased still further in 1949.

The potato crop in 1948 was almost double that of 1947 and this is a particularly welcome increase since potatoes are one of the country's most important staple foods. 431,464 acres were cultivated (344,031 acres in 1947) and the total crop for the year amounted to 2,228,451 tons. This represents a yield of 12.7 tons per hectare (8.1 tons per hectare in 1947). This acreage is to be considerably increased since potatoes are also an important source of fodder. The varieties which were imported after the war were successful only under favorable climatic and soil conditions, but most of Austria's potato planting is carried out in unfavorable areas, especially in mountain regions. It was therefore necessary to resume cultivation of the domestic potato tubers which had been developed before the war, since these native varieties are by far superior to the imported foreign ones, both in yield as well as in their resistance to sickness and destructive insects.

Austria's livestock, however, declined during 1948 because of the failure of the 1947 fodder crop and because of extensive slaughtering and meat deliveries. At the end of the year the supply of cattle amounted to 2,107,390 heads (which is about 2.3% less than in 1947). The number of hogs at the end of 1948 was 1,615,215 (which is 6.3% less than in 1947). Compared to the last prewar figures (1937), the decline in cattle amounted to 18.3% and that of hogs 43.7%. But it is expected that hog production can be greatly increased as a result of greater supplies of fodder via the Marshall Plan and by a maximum increase of domestic fodder production; if these plans are successful the country's meat supply should be considerably improved.

Milk production was increased during the last year: 548,000 tons of milk were delivered (as compared to 490,000 in 1947) and it is almost certain that this quantity will be raised to 650,000 tons during the current year. These figures represent only the quantity of milk actually sold. Actual production was of course much greater since part of it was consumed on the farms themselves and never reached the market.

Despite a particularly damaging and destructive beet pest, beet sugar acreage was increased from 45,000 acres (1947) to 55,000 acres and present plans call for a further increase to 86,500 acres during the current year.

AUSTRIA COMBATS CIGARETTE BLACK MARKET. It is reliably estimated that the cigarette black market in Austria still has a monthly turnover of 150 million cigarettes. This means a yearly tax loss to the Austrian

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Government of about 500 million schillings. Present Government receipts from taxes on the legal sale of tobacco amount to 1300 million schillings. It is apparent from these figures that more than one fourth of all cigarettes consumed come from the black market. Nearly all black market cigarettes, which are usually of American or Bulgarian origin, are smuggled into Austria from Hungary. Austrian police are waging a relentless campaign against these smugglers and large quantities of cigarettes are seized every month. The struggle against such contraband is made all the more difficult because of the fact that the black market operators constantly use trucks and wear uniforms of the various occupation forces in order to elude the controls of the Austrian police.

The Austrian Tobacco Monopoly which has been a Government monopoly for 150 years is doing its utmost to counteract the black market by improving the quality of Austrian cigarettes and lowering their price. In the summer of 1948, it brought out the "Jonny" cigarette which is made of American tobacco and whose appearance on the market immediately reduced the black market sale of American cigarettes to a considerable extent. In the near future, two other brands of prewar quality, "Sport" and "Memphis", will again be made and sold at low cost thereby enabling the Government to compete successfully with low-price Bulgarian black market cigarettes. It is expected that the tobacco monopoly will reach normal prewar production some time this year and will once more be able not only to meet domestic demand fully, but also to export Austrian cigarettes in large quantities.

IMPROVEMENT IN AUSTRIAN RAIL SERVICE. As of May 15, 1949, the express run Vienna - Innsbruck will be cut from 13 to 10 hours. The Vienna - Paris stretch of the Arlberg Express (Bucarest-Budapest-Vienna-Zurich-Paris) will now take only one day and one night; instead of the two nights and a day that were necessary to cover the same distance heretofore. These reductions in travel time have been made possible by recent improvements in the operation of the Austrian Federal Railways. Repair work on the Vienna - Linz line, which had been badly damaged during the war, has now been fully completed and several of the temporary emergency bridges that had forced express trains to slow down have now been replaced by permanent steel constructions. The Austrian Federal Railways are trying to bring their locomotive and car park back to the prewar level so that by May of this year the rail communication network will again attain its normal density and partly even surpass that of 1937. During the course of this year, the Federal Railways will also complete electrification of the last stretches of the Salzburg - Linz and the Villach - Spittal (Millstaettersee) lines. The main rail artery, in the West - East direction from Buchs (Swiss frontier) will then be fully electrified as far as Linz: 550 kms of the 838 km long line from Switzerland to the Hungarian frontier will be electrified. The Linz - Vienna run is scheduled to be converted to electric power operation by 1951.

PARIS - INNSBRUCK - VIENNA AIR SERVICE TO BE RESUMED. The Vienna "Presse" reports that "Air France" recently sent a representative to Austria to lay the groundwork for a resumption of the Paris - Innsbruck - Vienna air schedule. During the past two years, the Innsbruck airport has been completely rebuilt and can now meet all technical requirements. Regular service on the line is scheduled to begin this summer.

REFORESTATION IN THE VIENNA AREA. This spring the City of Vienna will begin extensive afforestation in the region east of the city in order to protect the vegetation of the area from erosion and at the same time increase Vienna's reservoir of fresh air. Vienna is bounded to the northwest, west and southwest by the great Vienna woods that form a tremendous forest belt which is more than 50 kms deep at certain spots and which has been scientifically tended and maintained for the past 50 years. But during and immediately after the war, extensive uncontrolled fellings were carried out and more than 200,000 stacked cubic meters of timber were cut. Felling has now been almost completely stopped in order to ensure a sound reforestation of the area. This forest belt will now be extended to the east of the city thereby nearly completing the circle of woods around Vienna. Initial plans call for the planting of 250,000 saplings during the first year in the Marchfeld region east of Vienna. These trees, which will be planted in 30-meter wide rows, will cover an area of about 120 acres.

STREET LIGHTING IN VIENNA. Remote streets in Vienna's outlying dist-

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ripts have once again adequate street lighting now that the city's street lights have been brought up to 30,000 lamps, 27,725 of which are electric and 2063 gas lamps. At the end of the war in April 1945 not only was Vienna's electric current and gas supply at a complete standstill, but about 90% of the city's street lamps were destroyed or stolen. By the fall of that year, a few streets in the center of town were provided with emergency lighting facilities but were lit for only two or three hours in the evening because of the power shortage. As late as 1947, a major portion of Vienna was still shrouded in complete darkness, a situation highly conducive to robberies and acts of violence. Thanks to the country's industrial rehabilitation, Vienna's streets could once more, during the last year, be given adequate lighting and the improvement in the power supply further enabled the city to keep the streets lighted throughout the hours of darkness. During the coming years all remaining gas lamps will be replaced by electric lamps.

1949 BUDGET FOR VIENNA STATE THEATERS: 17,8 MILLION SCHILLINGS. The planned 1949 budget of the Federal Theater Administration which operates 4 theaters in Vienna (2 opera houses, the Burgtheater and the Akademietheater) and has 1800 persons on its regular payroll has been set at 17,877,600 schillings. This sum is still subject to approval by the Finance Ministry and Parliament. The federal theaters, and particularly the opera, lost most of their stage sets and costumes during the war. In 1914, for example, the national theaters owned 96,000 costumes; today they have but 15,000.

PRESIDENT RENNER ASSUMES CUSTODY OF GOLD CUP DONATED BY KING FUAD. Federal President Dr. Karl Renner recently assumed custody of the fifteen pound gold cup which King Fuad I of Egypt had donated in 1933 as a challenge cup for the best tourist advertising poster. Dr. Renner accepted the cup at a ceremony in Vienna's "International House". The cup was awarded to Austria in September 1948 by the Conseil Central du Tourisme International in Paris for the poster "Winter in Austria" which the artist Paul Aigner executed.

AUSTRIA SUGGESTS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE BE AWARDED TO C.A.R.E. Upon the initiative of Chancellor Figl, the Austrian Council of Ministers, in its meeting of February 1st, decided to propose to the Nobel Prize Committee in Oslo that the Nobel Peace Prize be awarded to the American welfare organization CARE. The Austrian Government justifies its proposal in the light of the successful help this selfless organization has given in the three years of its existence since November 1945. CARE - whose European headquarters are in Vienna - has since its inception distributed more than 7 million packages valued at 70 million dollars in 15 European countries. The organization is composed of 26 recognized American charity and welfare groups and its primary purpose continues to be the alleviation of want and hardship in various European countries. These reasons motivated the Austrian Federal Government to propose to the Committee that the Nobel Peace Prize be awarded to CARE for its charitable activities throughout Europe.

TWO AUSTRIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN. On February 2nd, President Truman received a group of over thirty European high school students who are spending several months in the United States at the invitation of the New York Herald Tribune's High School Forum. Among the students who saw the President were Vera Popper, 18, of Vienna and Gerhard Andlinger, 17, of Linz, Austria. During the presence of the student group in Washington, Mrs. Ludwig Kleinwaechter, wife of the Austrian Minister, arranged a tea party at the Austrian Legation for the two Austrian students and their American hosts in the Capital. On March 5th both will participate with their European fellow-students in the Tribune's High School Forum in New York.

AUSTRIAN DOCTORS INVITED ABROAD. Twelve Austrian physicians and their families will leave for Ceylon this month at the invitation of the Ceylon Government to work as specialists in various hospitals. The group includes general practitioners, surgeons, dentists and pediatricians.

Last year five Austrian medical specialists had been invited to Abyssinia and this year five surgeons and general practitioners will again go to Addis Ababa to work at the imperial hospitals there.

The Vienna Medical Association and the University of Vienna are also negotiating with the University of Tabriz (Iran) which would like to have six Austrian professors for its medical faculty and university

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clinics. Other arrangements are being discussed for the visit of Austrian physicians to India, Australia, Venezuela, Egypt and Syria. By the end of the year, at least fifty to a hundred Austrian medical men will probably receive long-term contracts for practice abroad. These arrangements have the double advantage of reviving the fine reputation abroad of Vienna's medical schools and absorbing the surplus of young doctors in Austria.

COMPOUND VACCINE AGAINST SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA DEVELOPED IN VIENNA. The Director of the Vienna Serotherapeutic Institute, Professor Eisler-Terramare, recently stated that the new Austrian compound vaccine against diphtheria and scarlet fever would be available for immediate use by the end of February. The new combination inoculation serum will make the body immune to the two diseases for a period of at least three years. So far Austria had already been producing its own anti-diphtheric vaccine, but was still obliged to import the vaccine against scarlet fever from Germany. As these imports had ceased completely during the past few years, the development of an Austrian-made vaccine became a matter of dire necessity to protect Austrian children from epidemics of scarlet fever.

AUSTRIAN ART EXHIBITION IN COPENHAGEN. The important exhibition "Art Treasures from Vienna" that recently opened in Copenhagen, Denmark, is enjoying tremendous success with a daily attendance of more than 3000 persons. Reviewing the exhibition which is housed in the National Museum of Art, the Danish newspaper "Berlingske Tidende" writes: "This exhibition surpasses by far anything we have so far seen in Copenhagen". The paper further stated that the exhibition was evidence of Vienna's artistic appreciation and expressed the conviction that this exhibition would contribute much to revive cultural relations between Austria and the world.

The "Art Treasures from Vienna" exhibition, which includes the most beautiful and most valued possessions from Vienna's leading museums, has been touring Europe's capitals for more than a year. These great works of art have been on display for several months in Zurich, Paris, Brussels, The Hague and Stockholm.

LONDON PHILHARMONIC TO GIVE GUEST PERFORMANCES IN VIENNA. In May, the famous London Philharmonia Orchestra will give two guest concerts in Vienna which will be conducted by Wilhelm Furtwaengler. The London Philharmonia is one of England's most famous orchestras and the Vienna Philharmonic, through its chairman Prof. Hanzl, has expressed its pleasure at this return visit by the English instrumental group. It will be recalled that the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra gave a series of successful concerts in England last year.

DOCUMENTARY FILM ON ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL. A musical short dealing with the reopening of the Cathedral of St. Stephen is now being completed in Vienna by Ambassador Films, Inc., a New York Film company, in cooperation with the Austrian Catholic Film League. The film comprises Anton Bruckner's "Te Deum", his Fifteenth Psalm and Mozart's "Ave Verum". These compositions were performed by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and the Vienna Choir Boys under the baton of Prof. Carl Boehm. The tolling of all the churchbells of Vienna will also form part of the musical background of the picture which is expected to be finished by the end of February and will be distributed in the United States with special screenings for educational institutions and television.

JOHANN STRAUSS FESTIVAL WEEK IN VIENNA. A Festival Week in commemoration of the two Viennese composers, Johann Strauss father and son - the "Father of the Waltz" and the "Waltz King" respectively - will be organized from June 2nd to the 8th this year in Vienna by the Johann Strauss Society together with the Municipality of Vienna and the Austrian Government. There are several Strauss anniversaries in 1949: the Centenary of Johann Strauss Sr.'s death, the 50th Anniversary of his son's death and the 75th Anniversary of the first public performance of the operetta "Fledermaus".

Various festival concerts and official ceremonies are planned for this Strauss Festival Week and the crowning event will be a gigantic open-air performance at the Rathausplatz with the participation of the Vienna Philharmonic, the ballet of the State Opera and the Male Choral Society of Vienna. Another colorful event will be the Grand Ball in the Vienna Town Hall (Rathaus) given by the Mayor of Vienna. This latter event will signify a resumption by the City of Vienna of the tradi-

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tional "Balls of the City of Vienna", so famous in the past.

The Vienna State Opera will present festival performances of the operettas "Gypsy Baron", "A Night in Venice" and above all the "Fledermaus". The Vienna Symphony, the Vienna Philharmonic, and the other great orchestras of the City will also give a series of special concerts. The Festival Week will close on June 8th with a grand "garden party" in the parc of the baroque castle Hetzendorf.

1949 BREGENZ FESTIVALS. This year's Festivals in Bregenz, state capital of the Vorarlberg, will feature two concerts by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and several performances of Goethe plays by the Vienna Burgtheater on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of Goethe's birth. Last year's Bregenz Festivals had attracted a large number of visitors from other countries, especially from neighboring Switzerland.

1949 INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SURGEONS TO BE HELD IN VIENNA. At the invitation of the City of Vienna, the International College of Surgeons has decided to hold its international congress this year in Vienna. The congress will convene in July.

QUEEN OF HOLLAND, PRINCE BERNHARD, MARSHAL MONTGOMERY AND TYRONE POWER IN TYROL FOR WINTER SPORT SEASON. Queen Juliana and Prince Bernard of The Netherlands arrived in the famous Austrian winter sport center of St. Anton am Arlberg on February 7th for a three-week vacation. Early in March, Field Marshal Montgomery will also go there to see the Kandahar Race - the third-ranking international ski event. The Kandahar Race, which was run in France last year, will again be held in St. Anton am Arlberg for the first time since the end of the war, under the direction of Hannes Schneider.

Film star Tyrone Power and his bride of recent date Linda Christian arrived from Italy at the Grand Hotel in Kitzbuehel, another Tyrol winter sport center, on February 5th. They will later occupy a chalet for their four to six week honeymoon during which the young couple plans to take full advantage of the skiing season.

The influx of foreign tourists into Austria is assuming ever-increasing proportions. Thus for example, the number of Swiss tourists who visited Austria in December 1948 was 700% greater than those which spent their winter vacation in the country the year before (December 1947: 616 Swiss tourists; December 1948: 4566 Swiss tourists). A total of 20,000 night-shelters were provided for foreign tourists in Austria's winter sport area during the month of December. In some of the specially well-known winter resorts in the Arlberg area, such as Lech, Zuers, St. Anton and St. Christoph many hotels no longer have any reservations available until April, that is until the end of the winter sports season.

For full information on Austrian winter sport events, and travel or entry requirements, contact the Austrian State Tourist Department, 48 East 48th Street, New York, N. Y.

AUSTRIAN SKATERS WIN FIRST PRIZES AT INTER-EUROPEAN ICE SKATING COMPETITION. At the 1949 European Ice Skating Championship competitions which were held in Milan (Italy) between January 29th and February 2nd, Austria won first place in both the ladies' and the men's figure-skating contests. In the figure-skating competition for women, the Viennese skater Eva Pawlik won first place with 199.79 points over Ellena Vrazanova, Czechoslovakia (198.33 points) and Jeanette Altweg, England (197.50 points). In the men's contest, the Viennese champion Edi Rada topped all other contestants with a score of 209.84 points as against the 208.05 points awarded Ede Kiraly (Hungary). Third and fourth respectively, were Hellmuth Seibt, Austria, with 193.83 points and Fassi, Italy, with 185.99 points. The two new Champions of Europe, Eva Pawlik and Edi Rada will participate in the forthcoming world championship to be held in Paris soon. In the doubles, the Austrian brother and sister team, Herta and Emil Ratzenhofer, won third place with 10.57 points.

SPECIAL BULLETIN ON AUSTRIAN SUMMER COURSES

The Information Department of the Austrian Consulate General in New York will, by the end of February, issue a Special Bulletin on summer schools and courses to be held in Austria in 1949. The bulletin will contain important information on those summer courses which will be open to foreign students. The bulletin may be obtained free of charge by anyone interested in these courses. Address your request to: Information Department, Austrian Consulate General, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

...of the City of Vienna, so famous in the past. The Vienna State Opera will present festive performances of the operas "Lohengrin", "A Night in Venice", and "The Merry Wives of Windsor". The Vienna Philharmonic, and the other great orchestras of the City will also give a series of special concerts. The festival week will close on June 28 with a grand "Garden Party" in the park of the baroque castle Heldenstein.

...FESTIVAL. This year's Festival in Vienna, state capital, will feature two concerts by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and several performances of Goethe plays by the Vienna University of Music and Drama. The 200th Anniversary of Goethe's birth last year's Festival had attracted a large number of visitors from other countries, especially from neighboring Switzerland.

...CONGRESS ON SURGONS TO BE HELD IN VIENNA. At the invitation of the City of Vienna, the International College of Surgeons has decided to hold its international congress this year in Vienna. The congress will convene in July.

...MARSHAL MONTGOMERY AND TYRONE. Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands arrived in the famous Austrian winter resort of St. Anton am Arlberg on February 27 for a three-week vacation. Early in March, Field Marshal Montgomery will also go there to see the Kanderkar Mass - the third-ranking international ski event. The Kanderkar Mass, which was run in France last year, will again be held in St. Anton am Arlberg for the first time since the end of the war, under the direction of Hermann Schmidner.

...his bride of recent date. Lady Christa arrived from Italy at the Grand Hotel in Kitzbühel, another Tyrol winter resort center, on February 25th. They will later become a chafed for their tour to six week honeymoon during which the young couple plans to take full advantage of the skiing season.

...The influx of foreign tourists is assuming ever-increasing proportions. The number of Swiss tourists who visited Austria in December 1945 was 7000, greater than those who spent their winter vacation in the country the year before (December 1944: 616 Swiss tourists; December 1943: 4588 Swiss tourists). A total of 20,000 night-shoppers were provided for foreign tourists in Austria this winter spent time during the month of December. In some of the especially well-known winter resorts in the Arlberg area, such as Ischgl, St. Anton and St. Christoph many hotels no longer have any reservations available until April, that is until the end of the winter sports season.

For full information on Austrian winter sports events, and travel or entry requirements, contact the Austrian State Tourist Department, 48 East 48th Street, New York, N. Y.

AUSTRIAN SKATING WITH EUROPEAN AT INTER-CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS. At the 1945 European Ice Skating Championship competitions which were held in Milan (Italy) between January 25th and February 2nd, Austria won first place in both the ladies' and the men's figure skating contests. In the figure skating competition for women, the Vienna skater Eva Pawlik won first place with 109.75 points over Ellena Vannoren, Czech (107.50 points) and Janette Altwegg, England (106.50 points). The Viennese champion Rudi Rada won 209.84 points as against 208.00 points for the Czech skater, and 207.50 points for the English skater. Third and fourth respectively, with 198.85 points and 198.50 points, were Eva Pawlik and Rudi Rada. In the men's figure skating competition, the Austrian skater, won third place with 198.85 points, and Rudi Rada, won fourth place with 198.50 points.

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